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FACTS ABOUT WATERMELON SEED.

Outside of our specially grown watermelon seed there are three general sources of supply of melon seed for the seed trade of the United States.

First is seed from Kansas and Nebraska. These crops are grown on rich prairie soils forcing a rank growth of vine and rapidly growing inferior, tasteless melons. Growing season is very short and a large part of the melons never mature very fully. Seed is saved from everything, big, little, perfect and imperfect, matured melons and half ripe ones with hard centers. Like produces like and almost every instance where we have investigated cases of melon crops having hard centers the seed has come from seedmen who obtained their seed from these Western prairie States.

The second source of supply is from the Southern States, where crops are grown for seed purposes but the seed saved from everything large and small, perfect and imperfect. We see crops of this kind every year where seed is being saved from melons weighing not more than 2 or 3 pounds, most of them being diseased and rotten ended.

The third source of supply is worst. In Florida, Georgia and Texas there are tens of thousands of acres planted each year for shipment to northern markets. The shipping season is a short one and usually about half the melons produced are shipped and this part shipped is always the pick of the fields. The smaller, inferior, late melons, "culls" are left. After the shipping season is over hands go through the fields and seed is saved from everything that is left. Every melon fit to save seed from has been shipped and the seed is saved only from melons that should have been used to feed the hogs.

Our watermelon seed is from crops grown exclusively for seed purposes. We will give \$100 to any person with proof that we sell melons from our seed farm. Our crops are given the highest culture. Not a melon is sold or shipped from our seed crops. No seed is taken from imperfect melons.

Girardeau Seed Company

Monticello, Florida

